



# COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

## AGENDA ITEM

### BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

GREG COX  
First District  
DIANNE JACOB  
Second District  
PAM SLATER  
Third District  
RON ROBERTS  
Fourth District  
BILL HORN  
Fifth District

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**DATE:** January 23, 2001  
**TO:** Board of Supervisors  
**SUBJECT:** REDISTRICTING SAN DIEGO COUNTY SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS  
(DISTRICT: ALL)

### SUMMARY:

#### Overview

On December 12, 2000 (28) the Board of Supervisors initiated the 2001 Redistricting Process pursuant to which it will evaluate, and adjust as necessary, the boundaries of the five supervisorial districts in San Diego County based on the 2000 Federal decennial census data. Your Board approved in principle the establishment of a Redistricting Advisory Committee that will submit a report and recommended redistricting plans to the Board on or before June 30, 2001. Your Board directed County Counsel to return on January 23, 2001 with a resolution establishing the Redistricting Advisory Committee. Your Board also directed the Chief Administrative Officer to develop redistricting criteria, opportunities for public input on redistricting plans, and timelines relating to the 2001 Redistricting Process, and to return for their consideration and adoption on January 23, 2001. This letter complies with those directives.

#### Recommendations

##### CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

1. Adopt the accompanying Resolution to Establish a Redistricting Advisory Committee, creating membership qualifications, related procedures, meeting requirements, staffing criteria, duties and responsibilities, and terms of service. Waive certain provisions of Board Policy A-74.
2. Adopt the proposed 2001 Redistricting Criteria and Guidelines set forth in Attachment A to govern the 2001 Redistricting Process.
3. Approve the proposed Redistricting Timeline and Work Plan set forth in Attachment B, establishing a framework for the work of the Redistricting Advisory Committee, as well as public participation in the 2001 Redistricting Process.

#### Fiscal Impact

Funds and staffing for the redistricting process are included in the Fiscal Year 00-01 budget.

**Business Impact Statement**

N/A

**Advisory Board Statement**

N/A

**BACKGROUND:**

California Elections Code Section 21500 requires counties to redistrict after each Federal decennial census using that census as the basis of the redistricting effort. Boundaries must be redrawn so the districts are as nearly equal in population as possible and any redistricting plan must further comply with the "one person, one vote" principle contained in the Federal Voting Rights Act. San Diego County Charter Section 400.1 requires that the area of at least two supervisorial districts shall be as substantially outside the City of San Diego as the population will permit.

**Establishment of Redistricting Advisory Committee**

The accompanying "Resolution to Establish a Redistricting Advisory Committee" establishes a five-member committee to advise the Board of Supervisors concerning the 2001 Redistricting Process. The Committee will be comprised of one registered voter from each of the supervisorial districts who will be appointed by the Board. The Committee will review and analyze census and demographic data, hold at least one public meeting in each district, receive and evaluate public input concerning the 2001 Redistricting Process, hold at least one public hearing concerning proposed redistricting plans, and submit to the Board of Supervisors on or before June 30, 2001 no more than three proposed redistricting plans. The resolution sets forth membership qualifications, related procedures, meeting requirements, staffing criteria, duties and responsibilities and term of service. Meetings of the Committee and its subcommittees shall be subject to applicable provisions of the Brown Act. However, due to the potential need for closed sessions of the Committee, as well as meetings of its subcommittees, the prohibition against any secret meetings contained in Board Policy A-74 should be waived.

**Redistricting Criteria**

Your Board will adopt criteria and guidelines to provide a legal framework for the 2001 Redistricting Process. **Attachment A** sets forth legal principles specified in federal law, the State Elections Code, and the San Diego County Charter which are applicable to the establishment of district boundaries. It also sets forth additional criteria which should be taken into consideration during the 2001 Redistricting Process.

**2001 Redistricting Timeline and Work Plan**

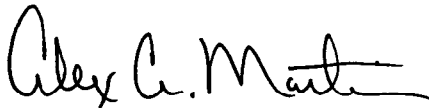
The proposed redistricting timeline and work plan set forth in **Attachment B** provides a rigorous schedule for the work of the Redistricting Advisory Committee and staff in order to evaluate 2001 census data, seek, receive and evaluate public input regarding the redistricting process, and prepare a report and proposed redistricting plans for submission to your Board no later than June


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30, 2001. The timeline and work plan address your Board's desire to provide a full opportunity for public participation and input in the short period of time available. Initial Countywide informational meetings will be held to begin the public outreach process. These meetings will provide the opportunity for the public to comment on the redistricting process and articulate community concerns. The public review and outreach program will be designed to educate the public about the redistricting process and to encourage the informed participation of the region's citizens. The Redistricting Advisory Committee will hold subsequent public meetings in each of the five supervisorial districts. There will also be a period during which the public can submit proposed plans. Thereafter, proposed redistricting plans developed by the Redistricting Advisory Committee will be made available for public review and comment. Finally, the Redistricting Advisory Committee and staff will hold a public meeting during which the public may comment on final drafts that the committee proposes to submit to your Board for consideration. This timeline and work plan should result in final proposed redistricting plans for your Board's consideration within the timeframe and criteria you have established.

Respectfully submitted,

  
For WALTER F. EKARD  
Chief Administrative Officer

  
JOHN J. SANSONE  
County Counsel

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**AGENDA ITEM INFORMATION SHEET**

**CONCURRENCE(S)**

**COUNTY COUNSEL REVIEW**

Written disclosure per County Charter § 1000.1 required? ☒ Yes ☐ Yes ☒ No

**GROUP/AGENCY FINANCE DIRECTOR**

☒ Yes ☒ No ☐ N/A

**CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER**

Requires Four Votes

☒ Yes ☐ N/A  
☐ Yes ☒ No

**GROUP/AGENCY INFORMATION  
TECHNOLOGY DIRECTOR**

☐ Yes ☒ N/A

**CHIEF TECHNOLOGY OFFICER**

☐ Yes ☒ N/A

**DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES**

☐ Yes ☒ N/A

Other Concurrence(s) Clerk of the Board Thomas J. P. 1-

**ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT:** Chief Administrative Office

**CONTACT PERSON(S):**

Catherine Trout

Name

(619) 531-5161

Phone

(619) 531-6439

Fax

A-6

Mail Station

ctroutch@co.san-diego.ca.us

E-mail

Lucy W. Franck

Name

(619) 531-5287

Phone

(619) 531-6439

Fax

A-6

Mail Station

lfranckh@co.san-diego.ca.us

E-mail

**AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE:**

Alex A. Martinez

Alex A. Martinez

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(continued)**

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**PREVIOUS RELEVANT BOARD ACTIONS:**  
12/12/00 (28) Establishing a Redistricting Process

**BOARD POLICIES APPLICABLE:**  
A-74 Citizen Participation in County Boards, Commissions and Committees

**BOARD POLICY STATEMENTS:**  
N/A

**CONTRACT NUMBER(S):**  
N/A

## RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH A REDISTRICTING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

On motion of Supervisor \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by  
Supervisor \_\_\_\_\_, the following resolution is adopted:

WHEREAS, the 2000 federal census is underway and local data will be officially reported in April 2001; and

WHEREAS, the California Elections Code, sections 21500 et seq., and the Charter of the County of San Diego, section 400.1, require the Board of Supervisors ("Board") to adopt a redistricting plan following each decennial federal census; and

WHEREAS, the Board intends to adopt its redistricting plan by ordinance no later than August 2001 in order to allow sufficient time for the Registrar of Voters to prepare for candidacy filings and the March 2002 primary; and

WHEREAS, in adopting a redistricting plan, the Board must adjust boundaries so that the districts shall be as nearly equal in population as possible, and in so doing may consider topography, geography, cohesiveness, contiguity, integrity, and compactness of territory, and community of interests; and

WHEREAS, the San Diego County Charter requires the Board to draw district boundaries in such a way that the area of at least two districts is as substantially outside the City of San Diego as the population will permit; and

WHEREAS, the Board wants to create a broad opportunity for public review and input regarding proposed redistricting plans; and

WHEREAS, Elections Code section 21505 provides that the Board of Supervisors may appoint an advisory committee composed of County residents to study redistricting and to report to the Board no later than August 1, 2001; and

WHEREAS, the Board is interested in establishing a Redistricting Advisory Committee to consider redistricting plans and to recommend redistricting plan alternatives to the Board;  
NOW THEREFORE,

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED AND ORDERED that the San Diego County Redistricting Advisory Committee (Committee) is established as follows:

(a) Membership and Appointment: The Committee shall consist of five (5) members, one nominated by each member of the Board, and appointed by the Board of Supervisors.

(b) Qualifications: Each member of the Committee shall be a resident and qualified voter of the County. One member shall be from each of the existing supervisorial districts.

(c) Removal: Any member of the Committee may be removed at any time by the Board of Supervisors.

(d) Vacancies: A vacancy shall occur upon any of the following events during the term:

(1) The death of the incumbent;

(2) The resignation of the incumbent;

(3) Unexcused absences from three consecutive regularly scheduled meetings; or

(4) Any reason specified in Government Code section 1770.

When a vacancy occurs as the result of missing three consecutive regularly scheduled meetings, the Committee chairperson shall notify the member who forfeited his/her seat and the nominating Board member. Vacancies shall be filled in the same manner as initial appointments.

(f) Term of Office: Each member of the Committee shall serve a term that runs until the Board of Supervisors adopts an ordinance establishing the redistricting plan based upon the 2000 federal census (the "2001 Redistricting Plan") or November 1, 2001, whichever occurs sooner.

(g) Officers: The Committee shall elect a Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and a Secretary from among its members.

(h) Rules: The Committee may prepare and adopt necessary rules and regulations for the conduct of its business.

(i) Quorum: Three members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum. A majority of members in attendance at a meeting shall be required to carry any motion or approval. No proxy, telephone or absentee voting shall be permitted.

(j) Minutes: The Clerk of the Board of Supervisors shall keep written minutes of each of its public meetings, a copy of which shall be on file in the office of the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors. The Clerk of the Board of Supervisors shall be responsible for distributing the minutes of public meetings.

(k) Meetings: The Committee shall establish a regular meeting schedule and shall give public notice of the time and place of meetings. All meetings of the Committee shall be open and public to the extent required by the Ralph M. Brown Act, Government Code sections 54950 et seq.

(l) Contacts: During their tenure, members of the Committee shall not communicate directly with members of the Board of Supervisors or their staff concerning the 2001 Redistricting Plan, except through formal reports and at regular noticed meetings.

(m) Compensation: Members of the Committee shall serve without compensation. Members shall be reimbursed for expenses incurred in performing their duties, including travel expenses to and from Committee meetings in accordance with the San Diego County Administrative Code section 484.

(n) Duties and Responsibilities: The Committee shall have the following duties and responsibilities:

(1) Review and analyze census data, demographic information and proposed redistricting plans, taking into account the redistricting criteria established by the Board of Supervisors;

(2) Hold at least one public hearing in each of the five supervisorial districts to receive input from the public on proposed redistricting plans;

(3) Prepare and submit to the Board of Supervisors on or before June 30, 2001 a report and recommendation on no more than three alternative proposed final redistricting plans; and

(4) Such other duties and responsibilities as may be assigned by the Board of Supervisors, including but not limited to additional review and analysis of proposed modifications to redistricting plans prior to adoption of the 2001 Redistricting Plan by the Board of Supervisors.



(o) Staff Assistance: The Chief Administrative Officer and the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors shall provide necessary staff assistance to the Committee.

(p) Counsel: The Office of County Counsel and/or any specialized outside counsel retained by the County of San Diego in connection with the 2001 Redistricting Plan shall serve as legal counsel to the Committee in connection with the performance of its assigned duties and responsibilities.

(q) Sunset: The Committee shall cease to exist and this resolution shall expire upon the earlier of the Board of Supervisor's adoption by ordinance of the 2001 Redistricting Plan or November 1, 2001, unless extended by the Board.

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY  
COUNTY COUNSEL

BY *Stiane Gardsley*  
SPECIAL ASSISTANT COUNTY COUNSEL